

As a licensed amateur radio operator, my main "job" is to provide a service to the government that has granted me the use of bandwidth.

I am 38 and have been licensed for 26 years. Most of my efforts have focused upon the high frequency bands, and I have participated in thousands, if not tens of thousands, of contacts domestically and worldwide during my period of licensing.

It is this ability to make contacts and reinforce skills on a regular basis that makes each and every ham radio operator a valued asset in cases of emergency and crisis.

I am gravely concerned that BPL will pollute the high frequency bands with background noise, so much so that it will become extremely difficult to use the high frequency amateur bands.

This will have a strong negative impact on MOST hams to practice and perfect our operating skills in times of calm, when we are supposed to be perfecting our skills for the emergencies during which they will be of great use.

In conclusion, BPL and its associated broadband and widespread RF noise could actually lead to the complete unusability of the HF amateur radio spectrum over much of the country.

As an amateur radio licensee, I cannot believe that this would be in anyone's best interests, especially when alternatives to BPL, such as DSL, cable modem, and satellite exist.

Sincerely,
Dean M LaClair